

CHAPTER 448, HRS DENTISTRY

SECTION

448-1	Dentistry defined; exempted practices
448-1.5	Lead apron during X-ray; required
448-2	Practice without license prohibited
448-3	Practice by unlicensed employee prohibited; penalty
448-4	Fraudulent advertising
448-5	Board of examiners; appointment
448-6	Powers and duties; meetings
448-7	Fees
448-8	Repealed
448-8.5	Continuing education requirements
448-9	Application for examination for graduates of dental colleges accredited by the American Dental Association
448-9.5	Application for examination; graduates of foreign dental schools not accredited by the American Dental Association
448-10	Examination; time
448-11	Investigations and hearings
448-12	Temporary license
448-13	Certificate, evidence
448-14	Repealed
448-15	No corporation to practice dentistry; penalty
448-16	Duty to furnish names, etc.
448-17	Refusal, revocation, suspension, and administrative penalties
448-18	Hearings
448-19	Using assumed name or degree prohibited
448-20	Practicing for advertising purposes, penalty
448-21	Criminal penalties
448-22	Prosecuting officers, duty
448-23	Filing of false information; revocation of license
448-24	Remedies or penalties cumulative

§448-1 Dentistry defined; exempted practices. A person practices dentistry, within the meaning of this chapter, who represents oneself as being able to diagnose, treat, operate or prescribe for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical condition of the human teeth, alveolar process, gums, or jaw, or who offers or undertakes by any means or methods to diagnose, treat, operate or prescribe for any disease, pain, injury, deficiency, deformity, or physical condition of the same, or to take impressions of the teeth or jaws; or who owns, maintains, or operates an office for the practice of dentistry; or who engages in any of the practices included in the curricula of recognized and

approved dental schools or colleges. Dentistry includes that part of health care concerned with the diagnosis, prevention, and

treatment of diseases of the teeth, oral cavity, and associated structures including the restoration of defective or missing teeth. The fact that a person uses any dental degree, or designation, or any card, device, directory, poster, sign, or other media whereby one represents oneself to be a dentist, shall be prima facie evidence that the person is engaged in the practice of dentistry.

The following practices, acts, and operations, however, are exempt from the operation of this chapter:

- (1) The rendering of dental relief in emergency cases in the practice of one's profession by a physician or surgeon, licensed as such and registered under the laws of this State, unless one undertakes to reproduce or reproduces lost parts of the human teeth in the mouth or to restore or replace in the human mouth lost or missing teeth;
- (2) The practice of dentistry in the discharge of their official duties by dentists in the United States Army, the United States Navy, the United States Air Force, the United States Public Health Service, or the United States Veterans Administration;
- (3) The practice of dentistry by licensed dentists of other states or countries at meetings of the Hawaii Dental Association or component parts thereof, alumni meetings of dental colleges, or any other like dental organizations, while appearing as clinicians;
- (4) The use of roentgen and other rays for making radiograms or similar records of dental or oral tissues; and
- (5) The making of artificial restorations, substitutes, appliances, or materials for the correction of disease, loss, deformity, malposition, dislocation, fracture, injury to the jaws, teeth, lips, gums, cheeks, palate, or associated tissues, or parts, upon orders, prescription, casts, models, or from impressions furnished by a Hawaii licensed dentist.

[§448-1.5] Lead apron during x-ray; required. (a) A dentist shall cover a patient's torso from the neck to the pelvis including the genital area with a lead apron while conducting an x-ray procedure on the patient.

(b) The board of dental examiners, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 91, shall establish minimum specifications for the lead apron; provided that the lead apron shall protect the patient's body from unnecessary exposure to x-rays yet not unduly discomfort the patient.

(c) Any violation of this section shall be considered an improper conduct in the practice of dentistry for the purpose of section 448-17.

§448-2 Practice without license prohibited. No person shall practice dentistry or dental surgery in the State, either gratuitously or for pay, or shall offer to so practice or shall advertise or announce oneself, either publicly or privately, as prepared or qualified to so practice, or append the letters "D.D.S.", "D.M.D.", "Dr.", "L.D.S.", or any other dental degree to the person's name with intent thereby to imply that the person is a practitioner of dentistry or a dental surgeon, without having a valid unrevoked license from the board of dental examiners.

§448-3 Practice by unlicensed employee prohibited; penalty. (a) Except as provided in section 447-3, no person who manages or conducts as manager, proprietor, conductor, or otherwise a

place where dental operations are performed, shall employ any person as operator in dental surgery or as a practitioner, or cause to permit any person to so act, who is not duly licensed to practice dentistry; provided that nothing in this chapter shall prohibit any unlicensed person from performing merely mechanical work upon inert matter in a dental laboratory.

(b) A duly licensed and registered dentist may employ auxiliary personnel, other than registered dental hygienists, to assist the dentist in the practice of dentistry. These employees shall be known as dental assistants and shall perform all duties assigned to them under the supervision, direction and responsibility of the dentist. Duties of the dental assistant and regulatory directives shall be delineated under rules which the board of dental examiners may from time to time adopt.

(c) Any person violating this section shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$1,000 for the first violation. Any person violating this section a second time shall be fined not less than \$500 nor more than \$2,000 and, in addition to the fine, the person's license shall be revoked.

§448-4 Fraudulent advertising. It shall be unlawful for any person to publish or circulate, directly or indirectly, any statements relating to the person's practice of dentistry that are or tend to be false, fraudulent, or misleading.

§448-5 Board of examiners; appointment. The board of dental examiners shall consist of twelve members, eight of whom shall be practicing dentists who have been engaged in the practice of dentistry for a period of five years preceding their several appointments, two of whom shall be practicing dental hygienists, duly licensed under section 447-1, who have been engaged in the practice of dental hygiene in the State for a period of five years preceding appointment, and two of whom shall be public members. No member shall be in any way connected with, or interested financially in, any dental supply company. One member in the practice of dentistry shall be appointed from each of the counties of Hawaii, Maui, and Kauai and five members in the practice of dentistry shall be appointed from the city and county of Honolulu. As used in this chapter, "board" means the board of dental examiners.

§448-6 Powers and duties; meetings. (a) The board shall meet for the purpose of examining applicants and for other purposes at times that it designates. Adequate statewide public notice of the times and places of examinations shall be given. The board may prescribe which members shall participate in the examination and licensing procedures.

(b) In addition to any other powers and duties authorized by law, the board shall adopt such rules as it deems proper and necessary for the performance of its work.

§448-7 Fees. Every applicant qualified for registration shall pay a license fee before entering practice. Every person holding a license to practice dentistry in the State shall pay to the board on or before December 31 of each odd-numbered year, a biennial registration fee. The failure, neglect, or refusal of any duly licensed dentist or doctor of dental surgery to pay the biennial fee during the time the

license remains in force, shall constitute a forfeiture of the license. The license may be restored upon written application therefor and the payment to the board of dental examiners of the appropriate fee.

§448-8 REPEALED.

§448-8.5 Continuing education requirements. The board shall adopt a program of continuing education for dentists and a program of continuing education for dental hygienists. After January 1, 2002, at the time of reregistration of license as a dentist or dental hygienist, each licensee shall present to the board evidence of compliance with the program of continuing education applicable to their profession. Failure to reregister and present evidence of compliance shall constitute a forfeiture of license, which may be restored only upon written application therefor and payment to the board of a restoration fee.

§448-9 Application for examination for graduates of dental colleges accredited by the American Dental Association. Any person of eighteen years or more shall be eligible to take an examination before the board upon submission of:

- (1) An application on a form prescribed by the board to the executive secretary of the board not later than sixty days prior to the date of the scheduled examination;
- (2) Application and examination fees; and
- (3) Documentation and credentials that shall include but are not limited to the following:
 - (A) A diploma or certificate of graduation from a dental college accredited by the Council of Dental Education of the American Dental Association, recognized and approved by the board; and
 - (B) A certificate or other evidence satisfactory to the board of having passed parts I and II of the examination of the National Board of Dental Examiners.

§448-9.5 Application for examination; graduates of foreign dental schools not accredited by the American Dental Association. (a) Any person of eighteen years or more, who is a graduate of a foreign dental school not accredited by the American Dental Association and a permanent resident of the United States shall be eligible to take an examination before the board upon submission of:

- (1) An application on a form prescribed by the board to the executive secretary of the board not later than sixty days prior to the date of the scheduled examination;
- (2) Application and examination fees; and
- (3) Documentation and credentials that shall include but are not limited to the following:
 - (A) A complete transcript of the academic and clinical dental school record of the applicant, authenticated by either the president, secretary, dean, or registrar of the educational institution;

- (B) A legible, true copy of the dental diploma or dental degree conferred upon the applicant as evidence of the completion of the courses of dental instruction required for graduation, authenticated by either the president, secretary, dean, or registrar of the educational institution;
 - (C) Certification by the licensing authority of the governmental jurisdiction, wherein is located the foreign institution from which the applicant was graduated that the applicant has been admitted or licensed to practice dentistry in that foreign state, country, or political subdivision;
 - (D) A certificate or other evidence satisfactory to the board of having passed parts I and II of the examination of the National Board of Dental Examiners; and
 - (E) Other documentation and credentials as may be required by the board.
- (b) Credentials and documentation required by this section which are submitted in a foreign language shall be accompanied by a certified original translation by a qualified translator.
- (c) When, because of circumstances beyond the applicant's control, an applicant is unable to furnish any of the documents, authentication, or certification required by this section, the board may in its discretion accept other documents which it deems satisfactory to establish the applicant's eligibility.

§448-10 Examination; time. (a) The board shall require all applicants to take the state written and practical examination on dentistry. In administering the examination the State shall consider current trends in dental education. The requirements for the examination in operative and laboratory dentistry shall be decided by the board and mailed to each applicant. All instruments, materials, and patients shall be supplied by the applicant. Two examinations shall be held each year.

(b) The board shall establish and administer a restorative technique examination to all qualified applicants under section 448-9.5. In administering the examination the State shall consider current trends in dental education. No applicant shall be permitted to take the practical examination under subsection (a) unless the applicant has passed the restorative technique examination.

§448-11 Investigations and hearings. The board of dental examiners, or its duly authorized representative, may inquire of any applicant for examination concerning the applicant's character, qualifications, or experience and may conduct investigations and hearings in order to secure further information concerning the character, qualifications, or experience of any such applicant.

§448-12 Temporary license. (a) The board of dental examiners may issue without examination to any resident or nonresident otherwise qualified to be examined a temporary license to practice dentistry in the employment of the State or any county, or any legally incorporated eleemosynary dispensary or infirmary, private school, or welfare center. The temporary license shall authorize the person to whom the license is issued to practice dentistry exclusively while engaged in that employment and shall be in force until the earliest of the following occurs:

- (1) The date the person leaves the employment authorized under the temporary license;

- (2) The three hundred ninety-sixth calendar day following the date of issuance of the temporary license;
- (3) The date on which the results of the licensure examination taken by the person under this chapter are posted by the board; or
- (4) The date on which the board revokes the temporary license; provided that the board may revoke the temporary license at any time for cause.

No person who has failed an examination shall have the benefit of any temporary license.

(b) The board of dental examiners may issue without examination to any resident or nonresident licensed in another state and otherwise qualified to be examined a temporary license to practice dentistry while in the employment of the department of health to provide dental services to Hansen's disease sufferers. The temporary license shall be valid for a period of three years or until the first board examination after the conclusion of the three-year period and only while the person to whom the temporary license is issued is in the employment of the department of health and works under the general direction and supervision of a duly licensed dentist. The temporary license shall not be renewed and shall be reviewed annually by the board of dental examiners for continuance and shall be subject to revocation and suspension as provided in section 448-17. The temporary licensee shall not be eligible for examination by the board of dental examiners while the temporary license is in effect.

§448-13 Certificate, evidence. All certificates of license issued by the board of dental examiners shall be signed by the chairperson, sealed, and shall be presumptive evidence of the right of the holder to practice dentistry. No person shall practice dentistry without first having procured such a certificate, except as provided in this chapter. Any person practicing dentistry and not having at the time a valid and uncanceled license shall be guilty of a failure to comply with this chapter and shall be punished as in this chapter provided.

§448-14 REPEALED.

§448-15 No corporation to practice dentistry; penalty. No corporation shall practice dentistry or engage therein, or hold itself out as being entitled to practice dentistry, or furnish dental services or dentists, or advertise under or assume the title of dentist or dental surgeon or equivalent title, or furnish dental advice for any compensation, or advertise or hold itself out with any other person or alone, that it has or owns a dental office or can furnish dental service, dentists, or dental surgeons, or solicit through itself, or its agents, officers, employees, directors, or trustees, dental patronage for any dentist or dental surgeon employed by any corporation; provided that nothing in this section shall prohibit a corporation from employing a dentist or dentists to render free dental services to its employees, nor shall it apply to corporations or associations in which the dental services were originated and are being conducted upon a purely charitable basis for the worthy poor, nor shall it apply to corporations or associations furnishing information or clerical services which can be furnished by persons not licensed to practice dentistry, to any person lawfully engaged in the practice of dentistry, when the dentist assumes full responsibility for the information and services, nor shall it apply to dental

service corporations formed for the primary purpose of contracting with individuals, groups of individuals, and corporations for defraying or assuming the cost of services of dentists and dental surgeons and of contracting on behalf of dentists and dental surgeons to furnish such services as provided in chapter 423, nor shall it apply to professional corporations as defined in chapter 415A. Any corporation violating this section shall be fined not less than \$200 or more than \$500 for each offense, and each day's violation shall be considered a separate offense.

Every association of persons engaged in the practice of dentistry under the name of an association or other title, shall cause to be displayed and kept in a conspicuous place at the entrance to its place of business the names of each and every person employed by the association in the practice of dentistry; and every person so employed by any association shall cause the person's name to be so displayed. Any person employed by the association whose name is not displayed as above provided shall be guilty of a failure to comply with this chapter and shall be punished as in this chapter provided; and the association, and the persons comprising the same, for failure to display the aforesaid names, shall be guilty of a failure to comply with this chapter and shall be punished as in this chapter provided.

§448-16 Duty to furnish names, etc. Every person or association practicing dentistry in the State shall, upon demand in writing by the secretary of the board of dental examiners, furnish within fifteen days after such demand, to the board, through its secretary, a true statement of the name and address of each person practicing dentistry or assisting in the practice thereof, in the office of such person or association, together with a statement showing under what license or authority the person or association is practicing. Any person or association failing so to do, or making any false statement concerning or touching anything covered by this section shall be guilty of a failure to comply with this chapter and shall be punished as in this chapter provided.

§448-17 Refusal, revocation, suspension, and administrative penalties. (a) The board shall refuse to issue a license to any applicant who fails to meet all of the requirements imposed by this chapter and may refuse to issue a license to any applicant who has previously committed any act which would, if committed by a licensee, result in the revocation or suspension of the license.

In addition to any other actions authorized by law, the board may suspend or revoke any license issued under this chapter and may fine a licensee for any cause authorized by law, including but not limited to the following:

- (1) Fraud in procuring license;
- (2) Habitual intoxication or addiction to the use of drugs;
- (3) Wilful or repeated violations of the rules of the department of health;
- (4) Acceptance of a fee for service as a witness, without the knowledge of the court, in addition to the fee allowed by the court;
- (5) Division of fees or agreeing to split or divide the fees received for dental services with any person for bringing or referring a patient;
- (6) Assisting in the care or treatment of a patient, without the knowledge of the patient or the patient's legal representative;

- (7) Employing, procuring, inducing, aiding, or abetting a person not licensed or registered as a dentist to engage in the practice of dentistry;
 - (8) Making any misrepresentations or false promises, directly or indirectly, to influence, persuade, or induce dental patronage;
 - (9) Professional connection or association with, or lending one's name to another for, the illegal practice of dentistry by another, or professional connection or association with any person, firm, or corporation holding oneself, themselves, or itself out in any manner contrary to this chapter;
 - (10) By false or fraudulent representations, obtaining or seeking to obtain practice or money or any other thing of value;
 - (11) Practicing, either in the State or elsewhere, under a name other than one's own;
 - (12) Any other improper, unprofessional, or dishonorable conduct in the practice of dentistry; and
 - (13) Violation of section 447-4.
- (b) Any person who violates, or fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this chapter, the penalty for which is not otherwise provided, shall be fined not less than \$1,000 nor more than \$5,000.

§448-18 Hearings. In all proceedings before it, the board and each member thereof shall have the same powers respecting administering oaths, compelling the attendance of witnesses, and the production of documentary evidence, and examining witnesses as are possessed by circuit courts. In case of disobedience by any person of any order of the board or of a member thereof, or of any subpoena issued by it or a member, or the refusal of any witness to testify to any matter regarding which the witness may be questioned lawfully, any circuit judge, on application by the board or a member thereof, shall compel obedience as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued by a circuit court, or a refusal to testify therein.

§448-19 Using assumed name or degree prohibited. Nothing in this chapter shall permit the performance of dental operations by an unlicensed person under cover of the name of a registered and licensed practitioner, and no person shall practice dentistry under an assumed name, title, or degree. Any person practicing dentistry under a false or assumed name, or who assumes the degree of "Doctor of Dental Surgery" or "Doctor of Dental Medicine", or appends the letters "D.D.S.", or "D.D.M." to the person's name, the same not having been duly conferred on the person by some college or school legally empowered to confer the same; or assumes any title or appends any letters to the person's name with intent to represent falsely that the person has received a dental degree or license, shall be guilty of a failure to comply with this chapter and shall be punished as in this chapter provided.

§448-20 Practicing for advertising purposes, penalty. Any person who extracts teeth or performs any other operation pertaining to dentistry for the purpose of advertising, exhibiting, or selling any medicine, instrument, or business of any description, whether the extraction or operation is for pay or not, shall be fined not more than \$200.

§448-21 Criminal penalties. Any person who violates, or fails to comply with, any of the provisions of this chapter, where a criminal penalty is not otherwise provided, shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned not more than six months, and each day's violation or failure to comply with the provisions hereof shall be deemed a separate offense.

Upon any subsequent conviction under this section, the person shall be fined not more than \$1,000 and imprisoned not more than one year.

All tools, implements, medicines, and drugs used by any person in the practice of dentistry without a license, shall be seized by the officers of the law, and upon conviction of the person for any violation of this chapter, the tools, implements, medicines, and drugs shall be declared forfeited to the State by the court and ordered destroyed.

§448-22 Prosecuting officers, duty. On notice from any member of the board of dental examiners, the several prosecuting officers of the State shall institute prosecutions for offenses under this chapter.

[§448-23] Filing of false information; revocation of license. The board of dental examiners shall refuse to grant a license to any applicant or shall revoke the license of any person who knowingly records, registers, or files, or offers for recordation, registration, or filing with the department of commerce and consumer affairs, any written statement which has been falsely made, completed, or altered, or in which a false entry has been made, or which contains a false statement or false information.

[§448-24] Remedies or penalties cumulative. Unless otherwise expressly provided, the remedies or penalties provided by this chapter are cumulative to each other and to the remedies or penalties available under all other laws of this State.